

# WEEKLY MISCELLANY.

Devoted to the Intellectual and Moral Improvement of the Young.

Vol. 1.

Halifax, N. S. Tuesday June 23, 1863.

No. 1.

HALIFAX, N. S. JUNE 23, 1863.

## INTRODUCTORY.

If any opinion is entertained respecting the publication in Nova Scotia of a Youth's Paper, that opinion may likely be one of enquiry—why such a publication has not been established before this period? The aid of the Press has been rendered available in promoting the objects of religious, moral and general institutions; and it may be reasonably expected that the moral and intellectual improvement of the young may also be facilitated through its agency. We think therefore that no apology is required for commending the *Weekly Miscellany* to the favourable consideration of the public; while we confidently hope that Parents and Teachers will cheerfully co-operate with us in establishing and permanently sustaining a periodical so much needed, and so admirably adapted to exert a beneficial influence on the morals and general deportment of the rising generation.

A reference to the Prospectus will inform the reader of the object and prominent features of this paper. We shall endeavour not only to adhere to the terms of that Prospectus, but also to introduce such improvements as an increasing patronage may enable us to afford; and while studying to render the *Weekly Miscellany* instructive and amusing to its readers, we shall scrupulously exclude every thing that may be reasonably considered objectionable.

In engaging in this publication we are but carrying out what we have long contemplated. It is not, however, the first of the kind undertaken in Halifax; many years ago the youth of this city were favored with a paper for a short period. Subsequently a second attempt was made to establish one; and as regards this effort, we are assured that it is favourably considered by the friends of the young,—and therefore present the First Number for their inspection. If they think the *Weekly Miscellany* worthy to be placed in the hands of youthful readers, and that they would be benefited by reading it, they will do a favour both to them and us by sustaining

it—not only by their own subscriptions, but by their exertions to induce others to subscribe.

## EDUCATION.

The word EDUCATION is derived from two Latin words, signifying *to draw or lead out*—that is, to *educere* or draw out the natural talents of any individual. Education, in its extended sense, commencing with infancy, continues through life. Its early stages are intended to prepare the young for the occupations they may be respectively called to fill when they arrive at years of maturity; and the great public interest with which this important subject is regarded, should commend it to their favourable consideration,—as it is especially for their benefit that Schools and other Educational Institutions are established and sustained.

Liberal sums of money are annually granted by the Legislature for educational purposes, and Boards of Commissioners organized throughout the Province for the appropriation of these grants in their several districts. A Normal and Model School has been established for several years at Truro—where Teachers are trained and qualified for the duties of imparting instruction; and the general interests of Education in Nova Scotia are superintended by the Provincial Inspector of Schools—who is also the Principal of the Training School at Truro.

If young people could only profit by the experience of others—we may say of all who are of more advanced years—they would gladly prize the opportunities offered them of instruction as a means of education. Theirs is the golden age which when once past can never be retrieved. When once they engage in the pursuits of life, it is seldom that sufficient leisure can be found between labour and necessary rest and recreation, to obtain what is now offered and pressed upon them. Let any of our young friends ask one whose school days are over, and who has entered upon the pursuit by which he is to earn his living, whether, if he had his early days to spend over again, he would

not give greater attention than he did to his studies and his teachers? We are sure what the answer will be, if the person has indeed had the opportunities now within their reach—for even the most diligent express regret for neglect of privileges which they have undervalued.

Mr Walter Scott used to say that he would cheerfully give the half of his literary reputation if he could thereby retrieve the time and opportunities which he had lost in his youth. In a letter to his son he says—

“Knowledge can be no more planted in the human mind without labour, than a field of wheat can be produced without the previous use of the plough. Labour therefore and improve the time. In youth our steps are light, and our minds are ductile, and knowledge is easily laid up. But if we neglect our Springs, our Summers will be useless and contemptible, our harvest will be chaff, and the Winter of our old age unrespected and desolate.”

## SAVE YOUR PAPERS.

We take this early opportunity to inform our yearly subscribers that they will ensure for themselves a great advantage, by saving all the Numbers of the *Weekly Miscellany* until the close of the Volume. By doing so they will have, when the year's subscription is completed, 52 numbers, making a volume of 416 pages—including a title page and general index. A volume thus preserved would, in a few years hence, afford much gratification to the youth of the present time—as it will then be rendered additionally interesting from its having been associated with the scenes of their earlier days.

By the time the last number for the year will be issued, we hope to be prepared to receive orders for binding the volumes of those who may apply; and would advise our young friends to keep each number clean until required for that purpose. We therefore send the papers in one parcel to each Agent, without writing the names of the respective yearly subscribers on the front page; as by doing so it would mar the appearance of the volume when bound.

After each number is received it will be necessary to have it carefully re-folded, so that the margins may be evenly divided before the upper edges are cut open,—as, in folding the papers for delivery and mailing, it is difficult to avoid unevenness.